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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

New York, New York

Group Art Unit:

Date: March 4, 1997

Examiner: K. Hastings

In re Patent Application of

Rudolf BUCK et al.

Serial No.: 08/556,769

Filed: November 2, 1995

For: TWIN WIRE FORMER

Hon. Commissioner of Patents

and Trademarks

Washington, D.C. 20231

AMENDMENT

Sir:

Responsive to the Office Action dated October 4, 1996, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please cancel claims 1/4, 7-28 and 31 without prejudice.

Please amend the claims as follows:

(Amended) A twin-wire former for the production of a paper web from a fiber suspension, the twin wire former comprising:

first and second web forming wire belts, means for directing the wire belts to travel along a path together for forming a twin wire zone of the twin wire former, with the web between the wire belts as the wire belts travel along the path through the twin wire zone, neither wire belt defining a single wire predrainage zone;

each wire belt forming an endless loop;

the twin wire zone having a first section which
includes a first drainage element at the start of the path

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